



Making Great Communities Happen

Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association

**Testimony regarding
Raised HB 7277-- AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF LAND BANK
AUTHORITIES**

CCAPA strongly supports this bill. Increasing the opportunities for municipalities and community groups to proactively clean up, redevelop, and revitalize their underused, blighted, tax-delinquent, and underperforming properties is key to invigorating our communities.

In 2017, CCAPA supported the creation of Brownfield Land Banks in Connecticut, and at that time, encouraged the General Assembly to broaden the Land Bank authority to include underperforming or otherwise troubled properties, regardless of environmental concerns. This bill proposes to do just that, enabling state-chartered Land Banks to actively participate in the revitalization of key properties in our communities and, in that way, move more quickly toward the delivery of Connecticut's renaissance. This bill adds a critical tool to the municipal redevelopment toolbox, and should be a priority for the General Assembly.

WHO WE ARE

The Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association (CCAPA) has over 420 members who are governmental and consulting planners, land use attorneys, citizen planners, and other professionals engaged in planning and managing land use, economic development, housing, transportation, and conservation for local, regional, and State governments, private businesses and other entities. CCAPA has long been committed to assisting the legislature and State agencies with developing and furthering responsible growth management principles. The APA is an independent, not-for-profit, national educational organization that provides leadership in the development of vital communities.

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